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## INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT 25X1A2g  
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1. Members of the Brussels Federation of the Belgian Communist Party (BCP) are divided by a strong difference of opinion with respect to the amount of support which should be given to the French strikes. On 20 November 1948, in the presence of several Federal delegates, Leonard Hamelryk protested that Xavier Relecom and Albert van Loo, together with Eugenie Cosse and Auguste Adam, were not vigorous enough in their support of the striking miners. Suzanne Gregoire replied that the BCP should concentrate on Belgian affairs and that the success of the festival at Heysel was of greatest importance to the BCP at present. Relecom seconded and amplified these statements.
2. It was agreed that certain provisions should be made for the care of the strikers' children and for the collection of food and money in their behalf. However, such a drastic measure as the sabotage of coal convoys to France was considered undesirable as BCP leaders are reluctant to involve their Party in serious trouble in aiding their French comrades.
3. The "cadres" of the Schaerbeek Section, Brussels Federation of the BCP held a meeting on 23 November 1948, at which the following matters came under discussion:
  - a. It was reported that the attempt to organize a Committee for the Unemployed (25X1A2g) had failed, but it was nevertheless decided that Gregoire, Grippa and Koucke should again try to arouse interest by distributing handbills outside the Unemployment Office, Rue de Jerusalem. Haest offered to ask Vanderlinden for help because of the latter's success in organizing such Committees in Brussels and Ixelles. It was further proposed that a petition demanding winter coal and shelter be placed in a cafe on the Rue Joseph for the unemployed to sign.
  - b. It was decided that a campaign should be conducted among railroad workers with the aim of inciting sabotage against trains carrying coal to France. The campaign was to begin in Schaerbeek on 23 November 1948 with the chalking of slogans on walls around the Schaerbeek and Josephat stations. This task was to be carried out by Demeessacker, De Bischof, Plehiers, Guisse, Haest, Verbist, Lauwerier and Snoers.

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- c. A program was adopted to raise money for the purchase of canned milk, sugar and meat spreads for the French strikers. Contribution cards costing five francs were to go on sale in stores, factories and ministries. Contributions were also to be collected from the audience of the Theatre Mon Village since permission had been given by the management, but no further effort was to be made in other theaters because of the recent failure of such collections undertaken for the benefit of political prisoners.
- d. It was announced that 120 children had arrived from France and were to be cared for until the end of the strike.
- e. It was reported that the Federation desired special effort in promoting the sale of the Drapeau Rouge the following Saturday and Sunday. Haest suggested doubling the number of newspaper vendors, but there were no volunteers for this job.
- f. The entry of two new members was announced: Isidor Guszow, 41, a worker from Poland; and Jules Gruszow, a 17-year-old student. The case of Robert Bauwens was discussed: he had been requested to submit an autobiographical sketch but had instead sent a letter deriding the Party. Bauwens has not been seen since the incident and still holds the Party membership card which was issued to him by De Bischop after a preliminary investigation.

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